

health care disparities that affect women. For example, heart disease is a leading cause of death for both women and men but women are less likely to receive lifestyle counseling or other medical intervention and more likely to die or have a second heart attack.

Women understand these hard choices and are calling on Congress to find a solution. As mothers with young children, women with aging parents, small business owners, health professionals and health care consumers, women confront problems in our health care system every day.

We are pleased to have the support of numerous groups representing physicians, women, and families, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Planned Parenthood, the National Women's Law Center, and the National Partnership for Women and Families.

There is much work to be done to change our health care system and it is going to take everyone's best effort, working together, to achieve it. America's families, businesses, and providers cannot wait any longer. This resolution is a first step and a signal that we need to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

SENATE RESOLUTION 639—RECOGNIZING THE BENEFITS OF TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE UNITED STATES ROUTE 36 CORRIDOR TO COMMUNITIES, INDIVIDUALS, AND BUSINESSES IN COLORADO

Mr. SALAZAR (for himself and Mr. ALLARD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. RES. 639

Whereas the Colorado communities of Westminster, Louisville, Superior, Broomfield, Denver, and Boulder have united in support of transportation improvement along the United States Route 36 corridor (in this preamble referred to as the "U.S. 36 Corridor");

Whereas communities in Denver, Adams, Broomfield, Jefferson, and Boulder counties, which have experienced unprecedented levels of growth since the early 1990s, are connected by the U.S. 36 Corridor;

Whereas the area's rapid growth has outpaced its transportation needs and is impeding the efficient movement of people and goods;

Whereas the U.S. 36 Corridor exemplifies the congestion challenges facing the fastest-growing sections of States in the American West;

Whereas the U.S. 36 Corridor is a dynamic travel corridor with bi-directional travel to and from the multiple communities throughout the day;

Whereas addressing congestion along the U.S. 36 Corridor is critical to the work and school commutes of thousands of Coloradans between communities in the Denver metropolitan area and Boulder;

Whereas the Colorado Department of Transportation and the Regional Transportation District, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, have been

studying multimodal transportation improvements between Denver and Boulder in the U.S. 36 Corridor environmental impact statement since 2003;

Whereas public comments received in the process of developing the environmental impact statement sought a transportation solution that further reduced the impacts on the community and the environment, minimized project costs, and improved mobility of people and goods;

Whereas the U.S. 36 Corridor project, as developed through the environmental impact statement process, is a national model for congestion mitigation measures, which may combine tolling, public transit, technology, teleworking, and bikeway options that can be quickly implemented and have an immediate impact;

Whereas the U.S. 36 Corridor could become a premier transportation corridor, complete with bus rapid transit, high occupancy vehicle lanes, and safe bicycling lanes;

Whereas the U.S. 36 Corridor project represents a thoughtful, comprehensive approach to congestion on the Nation's roadways;

Whereas a record of decision will be issued in 2009, which will permit construction to commence on the U.S. 36 Corridor project;

Whereas the U.S. 36 Corridor project was among the highest ranked congestion mitigation proposals submitted under the Department of Transportation's Urban Partnership Agreement Program; and

Whereas it is important that Congress find innovative ways to fund regionally significant transportation projects, especially projects that will improve air quality, expand transportation choice, reduce congestion, and provide access to bicycle and pedestrian facilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the members of the Mayors and Commissioners Coalition, the Colorado Department of Transportation, the Regional Transportation District, and the businesses that support 36 Commuting Solutions, a public-private nonprofit organization, for their commitment, dedication, and efforts to proceed with the United States Route 36 corridor project;

(2) recognizes the benefits for mobility, the environment, and quality of life that would be gained by investing in transportation improvements along the United States Route 36 corridor, throughout Colorado and elsewhere; and

(3) supports Federal transportation investments along United States Route 36, throughout Colorado, and elsewhere that reduce congestion, reduce carbon emissions, improve mobility, improve access to transit for bicyclists and pedestrians, reduce vehicle miles traveled, reduce dependence on foreign oil, support mass transit, include intelligent transportation systems, and implement travel demand management strategies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 640—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN INCREASED FEDERAL COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE PREVENTION OF DISEASES AND INJURIES FOR ALL PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 640

Whereas the United States has the highest rate of preventable deaths among 19 industrialized countries and lags behind 28 other members of the United Nations in life expectancy;

Whereas various research studies suggest that nearly 60 percent of premature deaths in the United States are attributable to environmental conditions, social circumstances, or behavioral choices that could be prevented;

Whereas more money is spent each year on health care in the United States than in any other country in the world;

Whereas, of the more than \$2,200,000,000,000 spent on health care in the United States each year, less than 4 cents out of every dollar are spent on improving public health and preventing diseases and injuries;

Whereas chronic diseases are the leading cause of preventable death and disability in the United States, accounting for 7 out of every 10 deaths and killing more than 1,700,000 people in the United States each year;

Whereas those often preventable chronic diseases account for approximately 75 percent of health care spending in the United States each year, including more than 96 cents out of every dollar spent under the Medicare program and more than 83 cents out of every dollar spent under the Medicaid program;

Whereas those chronic diseases cost the United States an additional \$1,000,000,000,000 each year in lost productivity and are a major contributing factor to the overall poor health that is placing the Nation's economic security and competitiveness in jeopardy;

Whereas the number of people with chronic diseases is rapidly increasing, and it is estimated that by 2050 nearly half of the population of the United States will suffer from at least one chronic disease if action is not taken;

Whereas the use of clinically-based preventive services has been demonstrated to prevent or result in early detection of cancer and other diseases, save lives, and reduce overall health care costs; and

Whereas research has shown that investing in community-level interventions that promote and enable proper nutrition, increased access to physical activity, and smoking cessation programs can prevent or mitigate chronic diseases, improve quality of life, increase economic productivity, and reduce health care costs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that, in order to reduce the disease burden and health care costs associated with preventable diseases and injuries, it is imperative that the United States strengthen its public health system—

(A) to provide all people in the United States with the information, resources, and environment necessary to make healthier choices and live healthier lives; and

(B) to protect all people in the United States from health threats beyond their control, such as bioterrorism, natural disasters, infectious disease outbreaks, and environmental hazards;

(2) commits to creating public health strategies to eliminate health disparities and improve the health of all people in the United States, regardless of race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status;

(3) supports the prioritizing of public policies focusing on the prevention of disease and injury;

(4) calls for community-based programs to support healthy lifestyles, including programs that promote proper nutrition and increased access to physical activity;

(5) urges the expansion of clinical preventive activities, including screenings and immunizations; and

(6) pledges to help significantly improve the health of all people in the United States by supporting increased investment in Federal public health programs.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a resolution promoting increased investment in preventive health and public health.

Our Nation's annual health expenditures have reached the astonishing total of \$2.2 trillion, or approximately \$7,000 for each American. Our health expenditures also represent 16 percent of the gross domestic product. That's a higher percentage of GDP than any other nation as well as a higher amount per capita.

But what are we getting for our health care dollars? Rankings from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, OECD, consistently show the United States ranking far behind most other industrialized countries in overall health status, in infant health as measured by infant mortality rates, and in life expectancy.

And if we examine the distribution of expenditures, it becomes apparent that we are dedicating the lion's share of resources to a few, chronic diseases, such as diabetes, and hypertension. From 1987 to 2000, while our overall health care spending doubled, spending on strokes nearly quadrupled and spending on hypertension rose from \$8 billion to \$23 billion a year. Chronic diseases are the leading cause of preventable death and disability, and are responsible for more than 1.7 million deaths each year. They are particularly costly for publicly-funded insurance programs, accounting for 96 cents of every Medicare dollar and 83 cents of every Medicaid dollar. Project HOPE has estimated that by the year 2050, nearly half the population of the United States will develop at least one chronic disease if we do not act.

But analyses also show that of the money spent on health care, fewer than 4 cents of every dollar are dedicated to public health and prevention. We need to prioritize public health and preventive approaches if we are to have a healthier America.

We already know that early detection can save lives, reduce costs, and result in a more efficient health care system for all of us. One prominent example is colorectal cancer screening. Colorectal cancer is the number two cancer killer in the United States. This year, an estimated 148,000 new cases will be diagnosed and more than 52,000 Americans will die from the disease.

The risk of colorectal cancer begins to increase after the age of 40 and rises sharply at the ages of 50 to 55, at which point the risk doubles with each succeeding decade. Despite advances in surgical techniques and adjuvant therapy, there has been only a modest improvement in survival for patients who present with advanced cancers.

The good news is that colorectal cancer can be prevented, and is highly

treatable when discovered early. Most cases of the disease begin as non-cancerous polyps which can be detected and removed during routine screenings—preventing the development of colorectal cancer. Screening tests also save lives even when they detect polyps that have become cancerous by catching the disease in its earliest, most curable stages. The cure rate is up to 93 percent when colorectal cancer is discovered early.

We must also promote changes in lifestyles, community-based interventions, to improve our health status. This means encouraging and enabling proper nutrition, increasing our level of physical activity, supporting smoking cessation programs for those who smoke now, and educating youth about the dangers of smoking.

Trust for America's Health has just released a report entitled "Prevention for a Healthier America." Among its conclusions is that "an investment of \$10 per person per year in community-based programs to increase physical activity, improve nutrition, and prevent smoking and other tobacco use could save the country more than \$16 billion annually every five years . . . a return of \$5.60 for every \$1. Of the \$16 billion, Medicare could save more than \$5 billion, Medicaid could save more than \$1.9 billion, and private payers could save more than \$9 billion."

It is clear that to make a real difference in America's health status, and to produce a far more efficient health care system, the answer is to use our health care resources more wisely. That means investing in the clinically-based and community-based interventions that will prevent the serious, chronic illnesses that are draining our health care resources now.

Finally, Mr. President, I want to thank Senator CLINTON for joining me in introducing this resolution. Her knowledge of and expertise in health care are unparalleled, and I am very appreciative of her support. I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 641—CONGRATULATING THE FOCUS ON THE FAMILY RADIO PROGRAM FOR ITS INDUCTION INTO THE NATIONAL RADIO HALL OF FAME

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. HATCH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

S. RES. 641

Whereas the National Radio Hall of Fame & Museum was created to commemorate significant figures in the world of radio, a medium that has been integral to American society since the early 20th century;

Whereas a key element of the mission of the National Radio Hall of Fame & Museum is to recognize and showcase contemporary

talent from diverse radio programming formats;

Whereas, each November since 1992, significant radio figures have been honored for their excellence in the field of radio by being inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame;

Whereas James C. Dobson, Ph.D., is founder and chairman of Focus on the Family;

Whereas the Focus on the Family radio program first aired in 1977 and now is heard through more than 3,000 radio outlets in North America and in 27 languages in over 160 other countries;

Whereas the Focus on the Family radio program has benefitted the lives of families and individuals across the United States and around the world;

Whereas the Focus on the Family radio program has been named as a 2008 inductee to the National Radio Hall of Fame; and

Whereas the Focus on the Family radio program is the first faith-based radio program to receive this honor: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the Focus on the Family radio program, its staff, and its founder and chairman, James Dobson, for their excellence in radio programming and the program's worthy induction into the National Radio Hall of Fame.

SENATE RESOLUTION 642—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS BY THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 642

Whereas, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs conducted an investigation into tax haven financial institutions, their formation and administration of offshore entities and accounts for use by U.S. clients, and the impact of those activities on tax compliance in the United States;

Whereas, the Subcommittee has received a number of requests from law enforcement and regulatory agencies for access to records of the Subcommittee's investigation;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate can, by administrative or judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate is needed for the promotion of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, acting jointly, are authorized to provide to law enforcement officials, regulatory agencies, and other entities or individuals duly authorized by federal, state, or foreign governments, records of the Subcommittee's investigation into tax haven financial institutions, their formation and administration of offshore entities and accounts for use by U.S. clients, and the impact of those activities on tax compliance in the United States.